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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

WM01/0910

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/454,506	12/06/99	046	FERGUSON, K	2683 09/10/01
First Named Applicant	POPLAWSKY, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION SUPPORTING AND CONNECTING A PORTABLE PHONE

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 2856-28	455-090.000	L73	UTILITY	NO	\$1240.00	12/10/01

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/454,506

Examiner

Keith T. Ferguson

Applicant(s)

POPLAWSKY ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6-26-01.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-24, 26, 27 and 29-49.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-3,5-24,26,27 and 29-49 are allowed.
2. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Upon close review of the claims, the prior art of record and applicants remarks in the Amendment After Final Rejection on page 16 line 3 through page 19 line 21, mailed June 26, 2001, it the prior art of record do not disclose an adaptor for hands-free operation of a portable phone, comprising: an interchangeable pocket member having a receiving section and a mounting section, said receiving section adapted to receive a portable phone, said pocket member also having a latching mechanism to retain said portable phone in said receiving section, a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable phone, and a second connector interfacing with the electronics of an interface module; an interface module having a receiving section configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, a latching mechanism to retain said pocket member in said receiving section and a connector interfacing with said second connector of said pocket member, wherein said interchangeable pocket member is received and removed from said receiving section of said interface module by

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movement of said pocket member in a substantially single dimension, and continued movement of said pocket member toward said interface module in said substantially single dimension mechanically and electronically interconnects said pocket member and said interface module.

Regarding claim 5, the prior art of record do not disclose an adaptor for hands-free operation of a portable phone, comprising: a pocket member having a receiving section and a mounting section, said receiving section disposed on the front of said pocket member and adapted to receive a portable phone, a first latching mechanism disposed within said pocket member to secure the portable phone within said receiving section, said mounting section disposed on the back of said pocket member and having a plurality of apertures for engagement with second latching mechanism in an interface module, a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the interface module, and a second connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable phone; an interface module having a receiving section disposed on the front of said interface module and configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, a second latching mechanism independent of said first latching mechanism to retain said pocket member in said receiving section and

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movable between a first position in which the pocket member is engaged by said latching mechanism, and a second position in which said pocket member is not engaged by said latching mechanism and comprising a plurality of latch members disposed for alignment with said apertures of said mounting section of said pocket member when said pocket member is mated with said interface module, and a connector interfacing with said first connector of said pocket member; wherein when said mounting section of said pocket member is seated within said receiving section of said interface module said latch members extend through said apertures and move from said first position to said second position to secure said interface module to said pocket member.

Regarding claim 19, the prior art of record do not disclose an adaptor for hands-free operation of a portable electronic device with electronics for voice and/or data communications within a vehicle, comprising: a pocket member having a receiving section and a mounting section, said receiving section adapted to receive said portable electronic device, said pocket member also having a latching mechanism to retain said portable electronic device in said receiving section, and a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable

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electronic device, and a second connector moveable in two dimensions and interfacing with the electronics of the interface module; and an interface module mounted to said vehicle, said interface module having a receiving section configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, a latching mechanism to retain said pocket member in said receiving section, and a connector electronically interfacing with said second connector of said pocket member and with systems resident within the vehicle; wherein when a portable electronic device is secured to said pocket member said first connector is moveable to facilitate interconnection with the personal electronic device and to facilitate interconnection with said second connector when said pocket member is secured to said interface module.

Regarding claim 34, the prior art of record do not disclose an adaptor for hands-free operation of a portable phone, comprising: a pocket member having a height that defines a first axis, a width that defines a second axis and a depth that defines a third axis with each of said three axes being perpendicular to the other two axes, said pocket member including a receiving section and a mounting section, said receiving section adapted to receive a portable phone, said

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pocket member also having a latching mechanism to retain the portable phone in said receiving section, a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the interface module and a second connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable phone; an interface module, separate from said pocket member and having a receiving section configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member upon movement of said pocket member in a direction substantially parallel to said third axis, a latching mechanism, independent of said latching mechanism of said pocket member, to retain said pocket member in said receiving section and a connector interfacing with said first connector of said pocket member, wherein the portable phone is seated within said receiving section of said pocket member by movement of the portable phone in at least in a direction substantially parallel to said first axis and said pocket member is received and removed from said receiving section of said interface module by movement of said pocket member in a direction substantially parallel to said third axis.

Regarding claim 36, the prior art of record do not disclose a system of interchangeable adaptors for hands-free operation of a portable phone, comprising: a plurality of pocket members each having a receiving section and a mounting section, said

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receiving section adapted to receive a portable phone of a particular configuration, said pocket member also having a latching mechanism to retain the portable phone in said receiving section, a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable phone, and a second connector interfacing with the electronics of an interface module; an interface module having a receiving section configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, a latching mechanism to retain said pocket member in said receiving section and a connector interfacing with said second connector of said pocket member; wherein said pocket members are removable from said interface module such that portable phones having different configurations interface with a single interface module.

Regarding claim 40, the prior art of record do not disclose a system of interchangeable adaptors for use with a variety of personal electronic devices, said system comprising: a plurality of pocket members, each having a receiving section and a mounting section, said receiving section adapted to receive personal electronic devices of a particular configuration; said pocket members also having a latching mechanism to retain said particular personal electronic device in said receiving section, and a connector interfacing with the electronics of said

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particular personal electronic device; an interface module having a receiving section configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, a latching mechanism to retain said pocket member in said receiving section and an electronic connector interfacing with the connector of said pocket member; wherein said pocket members are removable from said interface module such that personal electronic devices having different configurations interface with a single interface module.

Regarding claim 44, the prior art of record do not disclose an adaptor for hands-free operation of a portable phone, comprising: a pocket member having a receiving section and a mounting section, said mounting section disposed on the back of said pocket member, said receiving section disposed on the front of said pocket member and adapted to receive a portable phone, a first latching mechanism disposed within said pocket member to secure the portable phone within said receiving section, a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable phone and a second connector interfacing with the electronics of an interface module; an interface module having a receiving section disposed on the front of said interface module and configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, and a connector interfacing with said second connector of said pocket

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member; a second latching mechanism independent of said first latching mechanism and movable between a first position in which said pocket member and said interface module are disconnected and a second position in which said pocket member and said interface module are engaged by said latching mechanism, said second latching mechanism comprising a plurality of latch members; wherein when said mounting section of said pocket member is seated within said receiving section of said interface module said latch members move from said first position to said second position to secure said interface module to said pocket member.

Regarding claim 49, the prior art of record do not disclose an adaptor for hands-free operation of a portable phone, comprising: a pocket member having a receiving section and a mounting section, said receiving section adapted to receive a portable phone, said pocket member also having a latching mechanism to retain said portable phone in said receiving section, a first connector interfacing with the electronics of the portable phone and a second connector interfacing with the electronics of an interface module; an interface module having a receiving section configured to mate with said mounting section of said pocket member, a latching mechanism to retain said

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pocket member in said receiving section and a connector interfacing with said second connector of said pocket member, wherein said pocket member is removable from said receiving section of said interface module allowing a second pocket member containing a second portable phone to mate with said interface module by movement of said pocket member in a substantially single dimension.

Therefore it appears that the allowance of claims 1-3, 5-24, 26, 27 and 29-49 are appropriate.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Keith T. Ferguson whose telephone number is (703) 305-4888. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30am-5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on (703) 308-5318. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned

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are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Keith Ferguson
Art Unit 2683
September 4, 2001

KEITH FERGUSON
PATENT EXAMINER


WILLIAM TROST
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600